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United States of America

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

V.

LUIS ALBERTO BRAVO-GONZALEZ,

Defendant.

COMES NOW the plaintiff, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, by and through its counsel, Karen P. Hewitt, United States Attorney, and Steven De Salvo, Assistant United States Attorney, and hereby files its MOTIONS IN LIMINE. The motions are based upon the attached Points and Authorities, the files and records of the case, and argument.

I

## **GOVERNMENT'S MOTIONS IN LIMINE**

**A. THE COURT SHOULD EXCLUDE WITNESSES DURING TRIAL WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CASE AGENT**

Under Federal Rule of Evidence 615(3), "a person whose presence is shown by a party to be essential to the presentation of the party's cause" should not be ordered excluded from the court during trial. The case agent in the present matter has been critical in moving the investigation forward to this point and is considered by the United States to be an integral part of the trial team. The United States requests that Defendant's testifying witnesses be excluded during trial pursuant to Rule 615.

**B. THE COURT SHOULD PROHIBIT REFERENCE TO WHY THE DEFENDANT REENTERED THE UNITED STATES**

\_\_\_\_Defendant may attempt to offer evidence of the reason for his reentry, or alternatively, his belief that he was entitled to do so. Defendant may also attempt to offer evidence of the reason for his being in the United States, or alternatively, his belief that he was entitled to be here. The Court should preclude him from doing so. Evidence of why Defendant violated Section 1326 is patently irrelevant to the question of whether he did so -- the only material issue in this case. Rule 401 defines "relevant evidence" as "[E]vidence having any tendency to make the existence of any fact that is of consequence to the determination of the action more probable or less probable than it would be without the evidence. Fed. R. Evid. 401.

Rule 402 states that evidence "which is not relevant is not admissible." Fed. R. Evid. 402. Here, the reason why Defendant reentered the United States, and his belief that he was justified in doing so, is irrelevant to whether he violated Section 1326. Likewise, the reason why Defendant was in the United States, and his belief that he was justified in being here, is irrelevant.

United States v. Komisaruk, 885 F.2d 490 (9th Cir. 1980), is illustrative. There, Komisaruk was convicted of willfully damaging government property by vandalizing an Air Force computer. Id. at 491. On appeal, she argued that the district court erred in granting the government's motions in limine to preclude her from introducing her "political, religious, or moral beliefs" at trial. Id.

1 at 492. In particular, she argued that she was entitled to introduce evidence of her anti-nuclear war  
 2 views, her belief that the Air Force computer was illegal under international law, and that she was  
 3 otherwise morally and legally justified in her actions. Id. at 492-93. The district court held that  
 4 her "personal disagreement with national defense policies could not be used to establish a legal  
 5 justification for violating federal law nor as a negative defense to the government's proof of the  
 6 elements of the charged crime," and the Ninth Circuit affirmed. Id. at 492. Similarly here, the  
 7 reason why Defendant reentered the United States and his belief that he was entitled to do so, and  
 8 the reason why he was in the United States and his belief that he was entitled to be here, are  
 9 irrelevant to any fact at issue in this case.

10 **C. THE COURT SHOULD PROHIBIT REFERENCE TO PRIOR RESIDENCY**

11 If Defendant seeks to introduce evidence at trial of his former residence in the United States,  
 12 legal or illegal, the Court should preclude him from doing so. Such evidence is not only  
 13 prejudicial, but irrelevant and contrary to Congressional intent.

14 In United States v. Ibarra, 3 F.3d 1333, 1334 (9th Cir. 1993), the district court granted the  
 15 United States' motion in limine to preclude Ibarra from introducing "evidence of his prior legal  
 16 status in the United States, and the citizenship of his wife, mother and children" in a Section 1326  
 17 prosecution. Id., overruled on limited and unrelated grounds by United States v. Alvarado-  
18 Delgado, 98 F.3d 492, 493 (9th Cir. 1996). Ibarra appealed, and the Ninth Circuit affirmed,  
 19 reasoning that, because Ibarra had failed to demonstrate how the evidence could possibly affect  
 20 the issue of his alienage, the district court properly excluded it as irrelevant. Id.

21 Similarly, in United States v. Serna-Vargas, 917 F. Supp. 711 (C.D. Cal. 1996), the defendant  
 22 filed a motion in limine to introduce evidence of what she termed "de facto" citizenship as an  
 23 affirmative defense in a Section 1326 prosecution. Id. at 711. Specifically, she sought to introduce  
 24 evidence of: (1) involuntariness of initial residence; (2) continuous residency since childhood;  
 25 (3) fluency in the English language; and (4) legal residence of immediate family members. Id. at  
 26 712.

1        The court denied the motion, noting that "none of these elements are relevant to the elements  
 2        that are required for conviction under §1326." Id. The court also noted that admission of the  
 3        evidence would run "contrary to the intent of Congress." Id. In particular, the court stated that,  
 4        under Section 212 of the Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1952, codified at 8 U.S.C.  
 5        §1182(c), the Attorney General may exercise his discretion not to deport an otherwise deportable  
 6        alien, if the alien has lived in the United States for 7 years. Id. at 712-13. The factors which the  
 7        defendant relied upon to establish her "de facto" citizenship, the court noted, are "among the  
 8        factors the Attorney General considers in deciding whether to exercise this discretion." Id. at 713.

9        Thus, the court reasoned, "the factors that [the defendant] now seeks to present to the jury are  
 10        ones that she could have presented the first time she was deported." Id. Therefore, the court held,  
 11        "[a]llowing her to present the defense now would run contrary to Congress' intent." Id. In  
 12        particular, "under the scheme envisioned by Congress, an alien facing deportation may present  
 13        evidence of positive equities only to administrative and Article III judges, *and not to juries.*" Id.  
 14        (emphasis added).

#### 15        **D. THE COURT SHOULD ADMIT A-FILE DOCUMENTS**

##### 16        **1. The Documents are Admissible as Public or Business Records**

17        \_\_\_\_\_ The Government intends to offer documents from the Alien Registration File, or "A-File," that  
 18        correspond to Defendant's name and A-number in order to establish Defendant's alienage and prior  
 19        removals as well as the lack of documentation showing that when he was found in the United  
 20        States, Defendant had not sought or obtained authorization from the Secretary of the Department  
 21        of Homeland Security. Such documents are self-authenticating "public records," Fed. R. Evid.  
 22        803(8)(B), or, alternatively, "business records." Fed. R. Evid. 803(6) and should be admitted.

23        The Ninth Circuit addressed the admissibility of A-File documents in United States v. Loyola-  
 24        Dominguez, 125 F.3d 1315 (9th Cir. 1997). There, Loyola-Dominguez appealed his §1326  
 25        conviction, arguing, in part, that the district court erred in admitting at trial certain records from  
 26        his "A-File." Id. at 1317. The district court had admitted: (1) a warrant of deportation; (2) a prior  
 27        warrant for the defendant's arrest; (3) a prior deportation order; and (4) a prior warrant of

1      deportation. The defendant in Loyola-Dominguez argued that admission of the documents violated  
 2      the rule against hearsay, and denied him his Sixth Amendment right to confront witnesses. The  
 3      Ninth Circuit rejected his arguments, holding that the documents were properly admitted as public  
 4      records. Id. at 1318. The court first noted that documents from a defendant's immigration file,  
 5      although "made by law enforcement agents, . . . reflect only 'ministerial, objective observation[s]'  
 6      and do not implicate the concerns animating the law enforcement exception to the public records  
 7      exception." Id. (quoting United States v. Hernandez-Rojas, 617 F.2d 533, 534-35 (9th Cir. 1980)).  
 8      The court also held that such documents are self-authenticating and, therefore, do not require an  
 9      independent foundation. Id.

10     Even prior to Loyola-Dominguez, courts in this Circuit consistently held that documents from  
 11     a defendant's A-File are admissible in a §1326 prosecution to establish the defendant's alienage and  
 12     prior deportation. See United States v. Mateo-Mendez, 215 F.3d 1039, 1042-45 (9th Cir. 2000)  
 13     (district court properly admitted certificate of nonexistence); United States v. Contreras, 63 F.3d  
 14     852, 857-58 (9th Cir. 1995) (district court properly admitted warrant of deportation, deportation  
 15     order and deportation hearing transcript); United States v. Hernandez-Rojas, 617 F.2d at 535  
 16     (district court properly admitted warrant of deportation as public record); United States v.  
 17     Dekermenjian, 508 F.2d 812, 814 n.1 (9th Cir. 1974) (district court properly admitted "certain  
 18     records and memoranda of the Immigration and Naturalization Service" as business records, noting  
 19     that records would also be admissible as public records); United States v. Mendoza-Torres, 285  
 20     F. Supp. 629, 631 (D. Ariz. 1968) (admitting warrant of deportation).

21     **2. The Court Should Admit the CNR**

22     As noted above, a trial, the United States will introduce a Certificate of Nonexistence of  
 23     Record, or CNR, stating that there is no record of Defendant's having received consent to reenter  
 24     the United States. As the Ninth Circuit recently held, a CNR is not "testimonial" within the  
 25     meaning of Crawford v. Washington, 124 S. Ct. 1354 (2004), and may be admitted without  
 26     violating the Confrontation Clause. See United States v. Cervantes-Flores, 421 F.3d 825, 831-33  
 27     (9th Cir. 2005).

1           **E. THE COURT SHOULD PROHIBIT REFERENCE TO DEFENDANT'S HEALTH,  
2 AGE, FINANCES, EDUCATION AND POTENTIAL PUNISHMENT**

3           Evidence of, and thus argument referring to, Defendant's health, age, finances, education and  
4 potential punishment is inadmissible and improper. Rule of Evidence 402 provides that  
5 "[e]vidence which is not relevant is not admissible." Rule 403 provides further that even relevant  
6 evidence may be inadmissible "if its probative value is substantially outweighed by the danger of  
7 unfair prejudice." The Ninth Circuit Model Jury Instruction 3.1 explicitly instructs jurors to "not  
8 be influenced by any personal likes or dislikes, opinions, prejudices, or sympathy."<sup>1/</sup> Reference to  
9 Defendant's health, age, finances, education and potential punishment may be relevant at  
10 sentencing. However, in an illegal entry trial, illegal reentry trial, or attempted illegal reentry trial,  
11 such reference is not only irrelevant and unfairly prejudicial, but a blatant play for sympathy and  
jury nullification as well.

12           **F. THE COURT SHOULD PRECLUDE DEFENDANT FROM ARGUING PERMISSION  
13 TO REENTER BASED UPON WARNING TO ALIEN DEPORTED**

14           The Court should preclude any argument that Defendant believed he was not required to  
15 obtain the permission from the Attorney General or his designated successor the Secretary of the  
16 Department of Homeland Security prior to reentry into the United States or that Defendant  
17 believed he had permission to enter the United States based on any confusion or alleged error in  
18 the execution of the Warning to Alien Ordered Removed or Deported or statements made by an  
19 immigration judge at a removal hearing. See United States v. Ramirez-Valencia, 202 F.3d 1106,  
20 1109-10 (9th Cir. 2000) (holding that such a claim is legally insufficient and any such argument  
improper).

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25           <sup>1/</sup> Additionally, it is inappropriate for a jury to be informed of the consequences of their  
26 verdict. United States v. Frank, 956 F.2d 872, 879 (9th Cir. 1991), cert. denied, 506 U.S. 932  
27 (1992).

1           **G. THE COURT SHOULD PRECLUDE DEFENDANT FROM ARGUING THAT HE  
2            ACTED OUT OF DURESS OR NECESSITY**

3           Before Defendant may present a duress defense at trial, Defendant must establish three  
4           elements to the Court: (1) an immediate threat of death or serious bodily injury; (2) a well-  
5           grounded/well-founded fear that the threat will be carried out; and (3) lack of a reasonable  
6           opportunity to escape the threatened harm. United States v. Solorzano-Rivera, 368 F.3d 1073,  
7           1076, n.3 (9th Cir. 2004) citing United States v. Shryock, 342 F.3d 948, 987 (9th Cir. 2003). See  
8           also 9th Cir. Crim. Jury Instr. 6.6 (2003). The burden of proving duress rests with the Defendant,  
9           not the Government, where the statute in which the Defendant is charged criminalizes behavior  
10           conducted knowingly or intentionally. United States v. Meraz-Solomon, 3 F.3d 298, 300 (9th Cir.  
11           1993) (affirming District Court Judge Marilyn L. Huff's ruling that burden of proving duress lies  
12           with defendant, not the Government, in importation of cocaine case under 21 U.S.C. §§952, 960);  
13           United States v. Dominguez, 929 F.2d 1379 (9th Cir. 1991); United States v. Contento-Pacheco,  
14           723 F.2d 691, 693-5 (9th Cir. 1984) (holding that defendant bears burden of proving duress  
15           defense for possession with intent to distribute charge under 21 U.S.C. §841).

16           In this case, the Defendant would need to make a *prima facie* showing of duress before  
17           presenting such a defense. If a sufficient showing is made then the burden would lie with the  
18           Defendant to prove such a defense at trial by a preponderance of the evidence and the Court could  
19           give a duress instruction. See Dixon v. United States, 126 S.Ct. 2437, 2447-48 (2006) (rejecting  
20           argument that Government must disprove duress beyond a reasonable doubt); United States v.  
21           Meraz-Solomon, 3 F.3d at 300. Without such a showing, the Defendant may not argue duress and  
22           is not entitled to a duress instruction to the jury.

23           Likewise, to present a necessity defense, Defendant must establish the existence of the  
24           following four elements: (1) that he was faced with a choice of evils and chose the lesser evil; (2)  
25           that he acted to prevent imminent harm; (3) that he reasonably anticipated a causal relationship  
26           between his conduct and the harm to be avoided; and (4) that there was no other legal alternative  
27           to violating the law. See United States v. Schoon, 971 F.2d 193, 195 (9th Cir. 1993); United States

1      v. Dorrell, 758 F.2d 427, 430-31 (9th Cir. 1985). A court may preclude invocation of the defense  
 2      if "proof is deficient with regard to any of the four elements." See Schoon, 971 F.2d at 195.  
 3      "Where the evidence, even if believed, does not establish all of the elements of a defense, however,  
 4      the trial judge need not submit the defense to the jury." Dorrell, 758 F.2d at 430 (affirming trial  
 5      court's ruling not to permit defendant to present evidence because he failed to make a *prima facie*  
 6      showing of necessity). Necessity is based on a real emergency, not on several choices of action.  
 7      Id. Moreover, a defendant may invoke the defense of necessity where he acted to promote general  
 8      welfare. Contento-Pacheco, 723 F.2d at 695 (acts arising from human coercion and not physical  
 9      forces may not be considered necessity).

10      **H. THE COURT SHOULD PROHIBIT EXAMINATION OR REFERENCE TO  
 11      ALLEGED DOCUMENT DESTRUCTION AND POOR RECORD KEEPING**

12      \_\_\_\_\_ The United States seeks to exclude the Defendant from making reference or eliciting  
 13      testimony regarding (former) Immigration and Naturalization Services' ("INS"), now Department  
 14      of Homeland Security's record keeping or access to information and records. Specifically, the  
 15      United States seeks to preclude reference to argument that: (1) INS computers are not fully  
 16      interactive with other federal agencies' computers, (2) over 2 million documents filed by  
 17      immigrants have been lost or forgotten, (3) other federal agencies have the ability and authority  
 18      to apply for an immigrant to come into the United States,(4) the custodian of the A-File never  
 19      checked with other federal agencies to inquire about documents relating to the Defendant. Such  
 20      argument is irrelevant based upon the facts of this case as there has been no proffer or mention by  
 21      the Defendant that he ever made application to seek reentry after deportation. See United States  
 22      v. Rodriguez-Rodriguez, 364 F.3d 1142 (9th Cir. 2004) (affirming District Court Judge Lorenz's  
 23      rulings to deny such testimony in a §1326 "found in" case with similar facts).

24      In Rodriguez-Rodriguez, the Ninth Circuit held that any such testimony or cross examination  
 25      seeking to elicit such testimony is properly barred as irrelevant. Id. at 1146. The Ninth Circuit  
 26      explicitly rejected defense counsel's claim that the District Court's exclusion of the anticipated  
 27      testimony violates the Confrontation Clause. Instead, it declared that "none of the that information  
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1 is relevant on the facts of this case, because it is uncontested that Rodriguez never made any  
2 application to the INS or any other federal agency." Thus, absent at a minimum a proffer that  
3 Defendant had in fact applied for or obtained permission to enter or remain in the United States  
4 in this instant case, any such line of inquiry on cross examination or on direct testimony is  
5 irrelevant and properly excludable.

6 Additionally, the United States seeks to preclude reference to shredding of immigration  
7 documents by a (former) INS contractor as set forth in United States v. Randall, et al., Criminal  
8 Case No. 03CR0026-AHS (C.D. Cal. 2003) unless the Defendant testifies or offers evidence that  
9 (1) he did in fact apply for permission to reenter the United States from the Attorney General, or  
10 his designated successor, the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security and (2) that such  
11 a document would have been stored at that particular facility where the shredding occurred in the  
12 Randall case. Any reference of document destruction is irrelevant and unfairly prejudicial unless  
13 there is some evidence offered by the Defendant at trial that he did in fact seek permission to  
14 reenter the United States. See Fed. R. Evid. 401-403. Moreover, even if the Defendant offers  
15 evidence that he did apply, there must be some showing that his application would have been  
16 stored at the facility which is the subject of the Randall case during the time of the alleged  
17 shredding of the documents. Otherwise, it is immaterial and irrelevant whether a contractor of  
18 (former) INS destroyed documents at the INS California Service Center in Laguna Niguel,  
19 California because the Defendant did not apply, or if he did apply, his application was not stored  
20 there, and therefore, could not have been effected. Such testimony as well as any such statements  
21 asserted in Defendant's opening or closing arguments would be unfairly prejudicial to the United  
22 States and likely to cause confusion to the jury because such unsupported blanket allegations or  
23 references of document destruction or poor record keeping without any showing by the Defendant  
24 that he applied for permission to reenter would be misleading. Accordingly, the United States  
25 seeks an order precluding such argument.

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1           **I. THE COURT SHOULD ADMIT RULE 404(b) / 609 EVIDENCE**

2           The United States has notified Defendant of its intent to use Defendant's prior removals under  
 3           Rule 404(b) to show Defendant's knowledge that he was in the United States and to show absence  
 4           of accident or mistake regarding his entry. The United States also notified Defendant of its intent  
 5           to his Defendant's prior state convictions of carjacking with great bodily injury and possession of  
 6           narcotics for sale for impeachment purposes under Rule 609, should Defendant choose to testify.  
 7           The United States will also use Defendant's convictions should Defendant contend that he was not  
 8           subject to deportation or that he had permission to reenter the United States.<sup>2/</sup> If Defendant  
 9           testifies at trial, he will place his credibility squarely at issue, and the United States should be able  
 10           to inquire about his recent convictions.

11           Federal Rule of Evidence 609(a) provides in pertinent part: "For purposes of attacking the  
 12           credibility of a witness, (1) evidence that a witness other than an accused has been convicted of  
 13           a crime shall be admitted, subject to Rule 403, if the crime was punishable by death or  
 14           imprisonment in excess of one year under the law under which the witness was convicted, and  
 15           evidence that an accused has been convicted of such a crime shall be admitted if the court  
 16           determines that the probative value of admitting this evidence outweighs its prejudicial effect to  
 17           the accused; and (2) evidence that any witness has been convicted of a crime shall be admitted if  
 18           it involved dishonesty or false statement, regardless of punishment." Fed. R. Evid. 609(a).

19           The Ninth Circuit has listed five factors that the district court should balance in making the  
 20           determination required by Rule 609. United States v. Browne, 829 F.2d 760, 762-63 (9th Cir.  
 21           1987). Specifically, the court should consider 1) the impeachment value of the prior crime; 2) the

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22           <sup>2/</sup> Defendant's criminal history renders him statutorily ineligible for any relief from  
 23           deportation. First, Defendant is an inadmissible alien. See 8 U.S.C. §1182(a)(6)(A)(I) ("An  
 24           alien present in the United States without being admitted or paroled, or who arrives in the  
 25           United States at any time or place other than as designated by the Attorney General, is  
 26           inadmissible"). Second, Defendant is deportable under 8 U.S.C. §1227 for several reasons -- an  
 27           inadmissible alien is deportable; an alien present in the United States in violation of law is  
 28           deportable, and an alien convicted of an aggravated felony is deportable. See 8 U.S.C. §  
 1227(a)(1)(A) & (B) and (a)(2)(A)(iii). Defendant's conviction for carjacking with great bodily  
 injury is an aggravated felony under 8 U.S.C. §1101, because it involves the "threatened use of  
 force against the person of another."

1 point in time of the conviction and the witness's subsequent history; 3) the similarity between the  
2 past crime and the charged crime; 4) the importance of the defendant's testimony; and 5) the  
3 centrality of the defendant's credibility. Id. at 762-63. See also United States v. Hursh, 217 F.3d  
4 761 (9th Cir. 2000).

5 Here, several of the Browne factors weigh in favor of admitting Defendant's sexual assault  
6 conviction to attack Defendant's credibility. First, the impeachment value of Defendant's felony  
7 conviction, which occurred within 10 years of his apprehension in this case, is high. As such, his  
8 criminal record would cast doubt on Defendant's credibility should he testify. Second, the  
9 importance of Defendant's testimony is crucial in a case such as this, where Defendant would  
10 presumably testify if he intends to challenge one of the elements of the offense. For example, if  
11 Defendant contends he had permission to be in the United States, his convictions would become  
12 relevant. In addition, if Defendant testifies that he had received, or did not need, permission to  
13 enter the United States, he would essentially "open the door" to his criminal history – Defendant's  
14 convictions preclude him from receiving permission to enter the United States. Third, because  
15 such a challenge could only be developed through Defendant's own testimony, his credibility in  
16 asserting such a challenge would be central to the case. Furthermore, whatever risk of unfair  
17 prejudice exists can be adequately addressed by sanitizing these convictions and with a limiting  
18 jury instruction. Accordingly, the Government should be allowed to introduce evidence of  
19 Defendant's prior felony convictions under Rule 609(a) if he elects to testify at trial.

20 **J. THE COURT SHOULD PROHIBIT COLLATERAL ATTACK OF DEFENDANT'S  
DEPORTATION**

21 Defendant should not be permitted to argue the lawfulness of his prior deportation to the jury  
22 at trial. See United States v. Alvarado-Delgado, 98 F.3d 492 (9th Cir. 1996) (en banc). The  
23 lawfulness of the deportation is not an element of the offense under Section 1326, so this issue  
24 should not be presented to or determined by a jury. Id. at 493. The United States expects that  
25 Defendant will assert a claim of derivative citizenship. In his prior deportation hearing, the  
26 Immigration Judge determined that this claim was without merit. While defendant is not precluded  
27 from again asserting this claim to the jury in his criminal trial, he is collaterally estopped from  
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1 attacking the prior determination on this precise issue by the Immigration Judge and, furthermore,  
2 is estopped from attacking the lawfulness of the resulting valid deportation order.

3 **K. THE COURT SHOULD ADMIT THE AUDIO TAPE OR TRANSCRIPT OF THE  
DEPORTATION HEARING AND POST-MIRANDA STATEMENT**

4 \_\_\_\_\_As discussed above, Defendant was ordered deported by an Immigration Judge and removed  
5 to Mexico. This hearing was recorded in both the Order issued by the Immigration Judge and as  
6 well as the audio tapes of the hearings. In the audio tapes, Defendant makes relevant admissions  
7 under oath regarding his citizenship. Since these admissions by Defendant tend to prove the  
8 elements of the charged crime, the tape is relevant. See Fed. R. Evid. 401. The United States  
9 intends to play this tape. The United States also will provide a certified transcript of the hearing  
10 as part of its case-in-chief.

11 Further, the Government's witnesses will testify that these tapes are regularly compiled at  
12 immigration hearings, which are civil proceedings involving the Government. The statements are  
13 admissible as records of regularly conducted activity, Fed. R. Evid. 803(6), and public records,  
14 Fed. R. Evid. 803(8). Both Rule 803(6) and 803(8) allow the admission of data compilations in  
15 any form, including tapes. Moreover, the Ninth Circuit has affirmed the admission of such tapes  
16 under these evidentiary theories in criminal cases before. See United States v. Johnson, 297 F.3d  
17 845 862-863 (9th Cir. 2002).

18 The Government also can authenticate the tape because it is a self-authenticating document  
19 under Rule 902 and Rule 1005 of the Federal Rules of Evidence. "Extrinsic evidence of  
20 authenticity as a condition precedent to admissibility is not required with respect to . . . [d]omestic  
21 public documents . . . bearing a seal purporting to be that of the United States . . ." Fed. R. Evid.  
22 902(1). The audio tape of Defendant's hearing before an Immigration Judge have been certified as  
23 accurate by an interpreter for the U.S. Immigration Court. The interpreter attested to this accuracy  
24 by applying his official governmental seal. Thus, the tape is self-authenticating and it should be  
25 admitted along with the accompanying transcript. See United States v. Lechuga, 975 F.2d 397,  
26 399 (7th Cir.1992) (applying Rule 902 to an audio tape).

Furthermore, in his post-Miranda statement on May 12, 2007, Defendant admitted that he is a citizen of Mexico, that he had no legal right to enter the United States, that he had not applied for readmission into the United States, and that he had been previously removed from the United States. These statements are admissions of a party opponent admissible under Fed. R. Evid. 801(d)(2).

III

## CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, the Government respectfully requests that the Court grant its motions in limine.

DATED: April 4, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

KAREN P. HEWITT  
United States Attorney

s/Steven De Salvo

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ) Criminal Case No. 07CR3157-JLS  
Plaintiff, )  
v. ) CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE  
LUIS ALBERTO BRAVO-GONZALEZ, )  
Defendant. )

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED THAT:

I, STEVEN DE SALVO, am a citizen of the United States and am at least eighteen years of age. My business address is 880 Front Street, Room 6293, San Diego, California 92101-8893.

I am not a party to the above-entitled action. I have caused service of MOTIONS IN LIMINE on the following parties by electronically filing the foregoing with the Clerk of the District Court using its ECF System, which electronically notifies them.

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I hereby certify that I have caused to be mailed the foregoing, by the United States Postal Service, to the following non-ECF participants on this case:

None

the last known address, at which place there is delivery service of mail from the United States Postal Service.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on April 4, 2008.

s/ Steven De Salvo  
**STEVEN DE SALVO**